

7-1942

Nebraska Bird Review (July-December 1942) 10(2),
WHOLE ISSUE

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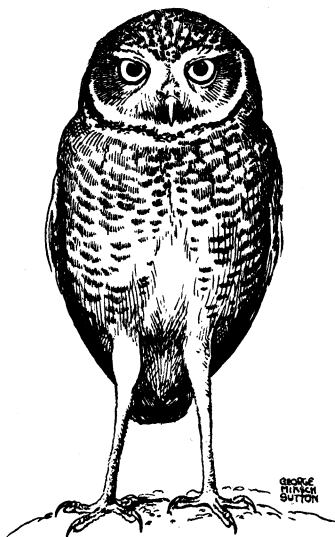
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VOLUME X JULY-DECEMBER, 1942 NUMBER 2

The Nebraska Bird Review



*A Magazine of the Ornithology
of the Nebraska Region*
Published by the

Nebraska Ornithologists' Union

THE NEBRASKA BIRD REVIEW

A Magazine of the Ornithology of the Nebraska Region

Published semi-annually, in January-June and July-December, by the Nebraska Ornithologists' Union, as its official journal.

Sent free as issued to all members of the N. O. U. who are not in arrears for dues. Subscriptions taken from non-members, libraries, and institutions at one dollar a year in the United States, and one dollar and twenty-five cents a year in all other countries, payable in advance. Single numbers fifty cents each. All dues should be remitted to the Treasurer and all subscriptions to the Editor.

Edited by F. W. Haecker, 506 South 52nd Street, Omaha, Nebraska.

The current issue of The Nebraska Bird Review is printed by The Enterprise, Blair, Nebraska.

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Actual Date of Publication, January 11, 1943

THE NEBRASKA BIRD REVIEW

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SHOULD THE BELTED PIPING PLOVER BE RECOGNIZED AS A VALID RACE?

By R. ALLYN MOSER

For the past three nesting seasons Mr. F. W. Haecker and myself have had under observation a colony of Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*) in one of Omaha's city parks which lies partly in Iowa and partly in Nebraska; the particular tract involved being in Iowa but belonging to Omaha. This area is a dredged sand fill of irregular contour on which grow young willows, cottonwoods and tumble weeds, and the ground is covered with small pieces of drift wood, pebbles of various sizes and broken mussel shells. This part of the park is destined to become an athletic field by the W.P.A. method, but we would much rather see it dedicated to the Piping Plover, Killdeer, Least Terns and Spotted Sandpipers found nesting here.

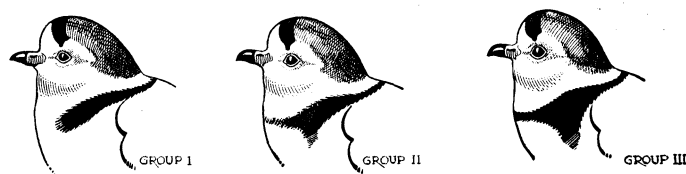
None of the birds were collected, but by concealment in the willow thickets, splendid perception was possible with and without field glasses. The birds were using two different locations during 1940 and 1941; but during the spring of 1942, all the nesting was confined to one site. A rather detailed record of the studies made during the spring of our first finding these nests has been published⁽¹⁾.

The purpose of this article is not to relate the antics of these most interesting, amusing and entertaining birds but rather to investigate the racial aspect of the species. They have their very sedate moods and their clownish moods; they are forever nodding their heads and are most curious of everything about them. They put on the best wounded bird act one can ever imagine. They follow or run ahead of anyone in their preserve piping all the while.

I do wish to point out, based on geographical distribution, that there are two races: Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus melodus*) and Belted Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus circumcinctus*) as first described by Robert Ridgway⁽²⁾. This race was based on Ridgway's findings and observations taken at the fork of the Platte and Loup rivers in this state during Lieutenant Warren's expedition in the month of July, 1874. Coues makes the statement⁽³⁾ referring to this expedition, "as observed sometime since by Mr. Cassin. Dr. Haden's specimens are

in full breeding dress, with the black pectoral band complete, instead of forming, as in most instances, an area on either side of the breast. This is the basis of Mr. Ridgway's new variety."

Just recently all the Piping Plover skins in the Field Museum, American Museum of Natural History, the Professor M. H. Swenk collection now in the Museum of the University of Nebraska, and specimens in the Hastings Nebraska Museum were surveyed by me. I have formed the conclusion from these studies that the adult birds fall into three groups with reference to the distribution of the black coloring on the chest and lower neck. Group I (see cut), those with a definite defined black patch only on the sides of the chest extending back along the lower part of the neck. Group II (see cut), those on which the neck patches extend forward forming an indefinite belt, this belt not being easily distinguishable but of a mottled design. Group III (see cut), those with a complete decidedly well-marked belt of black. There is no differentiation in measurement between the groups. The juvenile birds of all three groups are void of black plumage whatsoever, they are much lighter in color and have an entirely black bill. The adult bill is black for the outer third and yellow or orange to the base.



Variations of Collar on the Piping Plover

In 1940 we had four nests under observation and a total of ten adult birds. Two of these birds belonged to Group II and eight to Group III. In 1941 there were seven nests found and eighteen adult birds in the area. The first nest was found on May 15th and contained four eggs (see photograph). One of the nesting birds was blind in the right eye and could be approached to within thirty feet before scurrying away to begin her wounded actions. All eighteen of these birds fell into Group III. This past spring (1942) the colony was smaller than in 1941. Only three nests were found but ten adult birds were about the site, all of these belonged to Group III.

Mr. Bruce F. Stiles, Chief of the Division of Fish and Game of the Iowa State Conservation Commission, who formerly lived in Council Bluffs, reported⁽⁴⁾ the Piping Plover nesting on a sandspit of Lake Manawa near Council Bluffs during June, 1940. This area is about five miles south of our colony and had two nests with five adult birds belonging to Group III. In the season of 1941, I visited this location and found only two birds and one nest. Both birds had the well-de-

BELTED PIPING PLOVER AS A VALID RACE 33

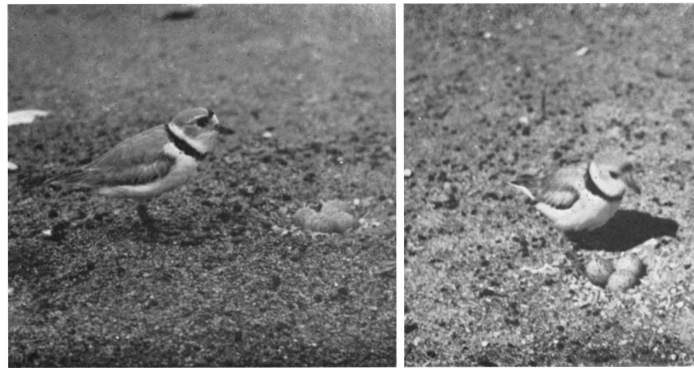
finied completed belt. In 1942 this sandpit was flooded due to increased rainfall in this section of the country.

The only Colorado record of the Piping Plover is a female col-



Nest and Eggs of the Piping Plover at Omaha

lected by Bailey and Niedrock, May, 1939⁽⁵⁾. This specimen is in the Colorado Museum and belongs to Group III. The other skins in this museum all belong to Group I and came from the Atlantic coast. In the Museum of the University of Nebraska, there are six specimens all collected at Capitol Beach, near Lincoln, Nebraska. One is a bird in juvenile plumage and five belong to Group III. In the Hastings, Nebraska Museum, Mr. Brooking, the curator, has two specimens also



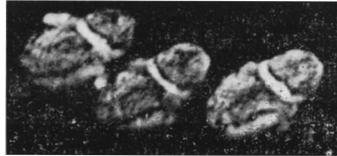
Piping Plovers at Nests Near Council Bluffs

collected at Capitol Beach belonging to Group III.

It is quite evident that Piping Plover breeding or migrating in western Iowa and in eastern to central Nebraska, belong to Group III.

There are no records of breeding birds in this territory which belong to Group I, and only two belonging to Group II.

Bruner, 1896, in some notes on Nebraska Birds⁽⁶⁾ lists only the Belted Piping Plover (*Aegialitis meloda circumcincta*). In 1901 Bruner, Wolcott, and Swenk gave the same listing for Nebraska⁽⁷⁾ and they state, "A fairly common migrant; breeds about the lakes in the sandhill region, along the Niobrara River in northern Nebraska, on the Loup at Dannebrog, along the Platte, and perhaps on any of the rivers of the state where are the sand-bars on which it nests". Early records of the Belted Piping Plover nesting in this state are as follows: Samuel Aughey, two nests in Dakota county, July, 1866⁽⁸⁾; G. P. Anderson found it nesting on the Middle Loup River at Dannebrog in 1899 and 1900⁽⁹⁾. In 1900 and 1902, O. S. Hunter, R. H. Wolcott and J. P. Wallace found it nesting at Trout Lake in Cherry county and in 1902 M. H. Swenk found nests on the Niobrara in Keya Paha county. Spring migration extends from April 20th to May 18th, and nesting from late May till July, and fall migration between July 30th and August 22nd. Seebohm⁽¹⁰⁾ discussed the American Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*) and Western Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus circumcinctus*), commenting that probably the coast birds found a complete black pectoral band too conspicuous in such an exposed situation so only acquired it on the sides of the breast.



Young of the Piping Plover
Less Than One Day Old

The range of this species does not extend west of the 103rd meridian except as a rare straggler. Over its entire domain it seems very selective as to nesting areas, which in the Missouri River valley are scattered spots in North and South Dakota, central and eastern Nebraska and western Iowa. Bennitt states⁽¹³⁾ that in Missouri it is only a rare transient visitor, and it is not listed in Kansas⁽¹⁴⁾. In the states touching the Great Lakes, nesting is near the lakes and quite local. There are no nesting records in Minnesota that we know of⁽¹¹⁾. In Canada⁽¹²⁾ it breeds in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, along the St. Lawrence and west into Saskatchewan. On our Atlantic coast the breeding range extends south into North Carolina.

Of 205 study skins in the various museums previously mentioned there are 109 belonging to Group I, 32 belonging to Group II and 64 belonging to Group III. There are no skins of Group I or Group II collected in North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa or Nebraska either

during the nesting or migratory seasons. The specimens taken in Saskatchewan show four belonging to Group III and one from Group II. Specimens of all three groups taken along the St. Lawrence provinces and along the east coast during the nesting season show a ratio of approximately three of Group I, two of Group III, and one of Group II, while in Indiana the groups are about equal. There are no breeding records from Texas⁽¹⁵⁾, but there are eleven skins of Group III, and two skins of Group II which were collected in July in that state.

It is obvious that there is a fairly equal intergradation of Group I and Group III among breeding birds in the Great Lakes region. There is the same condition along the St. Lawrence, in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, with preponderance of Group I and still greater preponderance of this group south along the Atlantic coast. Only seven of Group III were collected in this area during the nesting season. From all available records and our observation, there is no intergradation of these two groups in the Missouri Valley.

The fall migration route of the Piping Plover must be from west to east, south down the Atlantic coast and then west along the gulf coast, the spring migration being a reversal of this. They again show a spotted selection of their winter quarters. The fact that all groups migrate together was probably one reason why it was considered that there is only one race of this species and the early fall departure from this territory is further proof that they do travel a devious path to their winter territory.

The first two editions of the A. O. U. Check-List of North American Birds gives two races *Aegialitis meloda* and *Aegialitis meloda circumcincta*. Dr. Sharpe⁽¹⁵⁾ did not recognize the alleged sub-species *circumcincta* which I believe lead American authorities to a similar conclusion without careful consideration of the geographical differentiation or considering the fact that evolution does process forms which are subspecific. The third edition of the A. O. U. Check-List gives only the one form, *Aegialitis meloda*. In order to account for the birds belonging to Group III, most writers have stated as Bent⁽¹⁷⁾ has done: "the extent of the black collar probably indicates an old bird". The fourth edition of the A. O. U. Check-List likewise gives only the one form, Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*) which is the present day recognized status of this species.

It seems quite significant that during the three years we observed the birds nesting, there have been none of Group I, only two (in 1940) of Group II and forty-three belonging to Group III. It is not reasonable to presume that during this period there were no young breeding birds, that all males and females were always older Piping Plover with complete collars, and that this plumage differentiation is the indication of their age. I am also positive that discerning early observers in this state would have differentiated between birds of Group I and Group III, had they been here. As has been shown prior to 1910, when the

third edition of the A. O. U. Check-List was published, these ornithologists of the Missouri Valley transcribed in their records only the Belted Piping Plover.

Oberholser⁽¹⁸⁾ lists the Eastern Piping Plover and Belted Piping Plover and states, "The chief difficulty heretofore seems to have been that both forms occur on the Atlantic coast during migration which obscured their geographical distribution."

My contention is that birds of Group I do not come this far west; that Group III birds migrate in the fall through to the east coast and then south to their wintering grounds in common with birds of Group I, but going farther west along the gulf coast. They return to their western-most nesting grounds in the spring by way of the eastern route. There is intergradation between Group I and Group III in the eastern districts and Group II are offsprings of inter-breeding of Groups I and III. The Piping Plover is definitely very selective as to its nesting grounds, migratory route and wintering grounds.

It was entirely erroneous to have discarded the western form *Charadrius melodus circumcinctus* as it is a precise race which is defined geographically in the Missouri Valley. I also make the contention that should the next A. O. U. Check-List follow the classification of 1931, *Charadrius melodus circumcinctus* should precede *Charadrius melodus melodus*; this due to the fact that *Charadrius melodus circumcinctus* with the complete black collar is nearer to, and more characteristic of the other species in the subgenus *Charadrius* than is *Charadrius melodus melodus*. The first described race as is the policy should, however, retain the duplicated specific name.

Acknowledgements

I wish to acknowledge and thank Milton Myers for making the sketches used in this article, Bruce F. Stiles for the use of his cuts from photographs taken at the Piping Plover nesting site near Council Bluffs, Edson M. Fichter, A. M. Brooking, and Dr. and Mrs. Clarence F. Bantin for information given to me from museum collections. The photographs of the nest alone and the young Piping Plover chicks were taken at the Carter Lake nesting area in the spring of 1941.

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**THE HUNGARIAN PARTRIDGE
AND
ITS RANGE IN NORTHERN NEBRASKA**

By GLENN VIEHMEYER

Introduction

Game managers of the United States have for a number of years been transplanting game birds from foreign soil with the hope that these species might become adapted to our conditions and thus help maintain or increase our present game population. One of the most successful of the exotic birds has been the Hungarian, or European Gray Partridge (*Perdix perdix perdix*), an important game bird of central Europe and the British Isles. The Hungarian Partridge is an excellent game bird and has been successfully transplanted in that it thrives in areas of intensive agriculture such as is typical of our central states.

Range

In Europe, the Hungarian Partridge ranges from the British Isles and northern Portugal on the west to the Barabinska Steppes and Altai Mountains of central Asia on the east, south to northern Greece and northern Persia, and north to southern Norway, Sweden, and south central Russia.

Its best American range seems to be in the upper Mississippi valley, northern states west of the Rocky Mountains, and in Canada from Saskatchewan westward to the Pacific Coast.

Early Plantings in Nebraska

Nebraska, with funds raised by popular subscriptions in 1907, allowed its chief deputy game warden to secure 250 birds. During 1925 and '26, 400 Hungarian Partridges were imported and distributed in favorable localities throughout Nebraska. Eight hundred Hungarian Partridges were distributed throughout the state in 1927 and '28. All of the Huns were placed on game reserves throughout the state.

In 1929, '30, and '31 the Game Commission stocked the Hungarian Partridges in the following counties:

County	No. Pairs Released
Brown	69
Buffalo	54
Butler	10
Cherry	79
Custer	54
Colfax	10
Dawes	142
Dundy	54
Frontier	79
Furnas	79
Garfield	20
Greeley	6
Harlan	16
Howard	21
Holt	108
Johnson	9
Knox	89
Lancaster	22
Madison	54
Morrill	10
Merrick	25
Nuckolls	9
Otoe	25
Pierce	54

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County	No. Pairs Released
Rock	80
Sarpy	8
Saunders	103
Sheridan	111
Scottsbluff	54
Sherman	24
Thayer	68
Thomas	78
Washington	25
Total Pairs Stocked	1,649

These plants were only fairly successful at that time and apparently became failures later.

Habitat

The partridge prefers rolling and partly cultivated ground. The birds frequent grain fields before cutting, and the stubble afterward, and have shown great fondness for corn fields. They live without much cover, but during snow storms do require some heavy grass, weeds, or standing corn with which to protect themselves.

General Description

This bird can be distinguished at all ages by the fact that it has a tail composed of eighteen feathers of nearly equal length. There are slight seasonal changes of plumage, and the sexes differ slightly in coloration. In general they are about twelve to fourteen inches in length, weighing from twelve to thirteen ounces.

The adult male is brownish buff above, with narrow, close-set, wavy cross-bars of black, while the scapulars, lesser and medium wing coverts are blotched on their inner webs with chestnut. The coverts also have a conspicuous longitudinal buff shaft-streak. From September to June the top of the head is brown, narrowly striped with buff, the rest of the head and throat being of a bright rust red. The breast and flanks are pale gray, finely mottled with black and barred on the flanks with chestnut, while a large horseshoe-shaped patch of chestnut marks the center of the breast. The rest of the parts are whitish. A small area of red skin surrounds the eye, the beak is bluish-brown, the legs pale bluish-gray, and the iris brown.

The female is distinguishable by the brown hue of the head and neck, which are conspicuously striated with buff. The coloration of the lesser and medium coverts is black, with wide-set, somewhat wavy cross-bars in addition to the longitudinal shaft-streaks of buff. The chestnut horseshoe is smaller than on the male, or may be wanting.

The young birds in down are of a grayish-buff. The crown is dark chestnut and the sides of the head are yellowish, with a long loop of black, the ends of which turn forward. Down the back of the neck runs a black stripe, dividing at the base to run down on either side of the middle of the back; below this dorsal stripe runs a similar line, which at its hinder extremity turns forward to form a short loop.

Call

The call of the partridge is not musical and is quite noticeable on a still spring morning. There is a two-syllabled chuckling note, "*kee-uck*", the second syllable being rather raspy and throaty and the first high-pitched and nasal. During flight, the birds utter rapid chucklings which diminish to the above notes repeated several times. While caring for the young, the parents, with much flitting of tails, make a clucking sound, "*putt, putt, putt*". The young "lost" call is a plaintive "*peep, peep, peep*", characteristic of most young birds.

Flight

A covey of partridges flushed from cover rises in an almost simultaneous burst of powerful, noisy wing beatings and whirrings, intermingled with cackling. The flight consists of an alternate series of short, rapid wing strokes. The line of flight is straight and terminates in a swing of several rods right or left. It is usually low over the ground, the birds having to rise to top a fence of hedgerow. Tests show that their speed of flight ranges from thirty to thirty-six miles an hour. Because of this tremendous speed of flight, and secretiveness, they are an excellent game bird.

Habits

This species is gregarious during the winter months, beginning to flock in October and continuing in these coveys till the last of February. When gregariousness is upon them, they are exceedingly wary and are up and away at a moment's notice. These coveys roost on the ground in a "bomb-like" formation. This is a compact, circular group, heads pointing outward, tails in, making an alert defense against enemies and insuring warmth. By the latter part of February, there comes a change when the coveys disband and pairing begins. At this season, the partridge is less wary and can be found more often in roads and along roadsides.

During the summer months, the common activity of both young and old is to rise early and dust themselves. Feeding takes place in the early morning but as cooler weather approaches, these periods become longer. The saturation point of the Hungarian Partridge has been placed by Leopold at one bird per acre.

Life History

The Hungarian Partridge is monogamous and is delicately sentimental in the choice of its mate. It is the only game species bird known with certainty to be monogamous. Pairing of birds withing the covey in late February is doubtless the rule.

Calling begins early, when talking may be heard among members of the covey. The coveys then start to break up and fighting is common among the males who combat unmated rivals and viciously protect their chosen areas. Actual fighting is interspersed with much chasing and maneuvering, which may continue from early evening until dark. Encounters are short but often feathers fly as vicious battles take place.

Nesting of the partridge is usually near its winter grounds. The site selected is concealed under overhanging plants, grasses, or weeds, and great preference is shown for fence and hedgerows. The birds take great care in the selection of their new home and may abandon one place for another. As the season becomes late, the partridge may start laying and then finish the nest as laying progresses. The nest is a depression in the ground about seven and one-fourth inches wide and two inches deep, lined with two layers, the outer being of coarse material and the inner of fine material such as grass, dead leaves, and often body feathers. Runways and tunnels of various lengths are found approaching the hidden nest.

During the first part of May, the partridge begins laying and the number of eggs per clutch greatly depends upon the food supply and weather. The number of eggs per clutch ranges from eight to twenty-five and averages about sixteen and four-tenths. As many as thirty or forty have been found in one nest which is no doubt due to more than one hen's laying. The eggs are an olive-brown to grayish-olive, but occasionally pale blue or whitish eggs and eggs with blue bands have been found. The egg is a pointed oval averaging about 1.46 to 1.15 inches in measurement. It is not uncommon to find partridge eggs in the same nest as those of other species, such as the pheasant. Normally, the partridge lays one clutch a year, but if the first clutch is destroyed, the second laying may be delayed a month or so. Thus eggs have been found in September and October. During the time the eggs are being laid prior to incubation, they are covered with dry grass and leaves while the hen is away from the nest.

The hen partridge just before incubation arranges the eggs in the nest so that each lies point down. The incubation, which is from twenty-one to twenty-four days, is carried on by the hen. She becomes very broody and leaves the nest only in the early morning and late in the afternoon for feeding and dusting. As hatching approaches these periods become shorter and less frequent. The male guards the nest from

a point close by, giving frequent calls to assure his mate of his presence. Immediately after hatching, the female with the male acting as a guard or decoy, moves the young from place to place by calls of soft, bubbling, clucking notes. They move about in a single file female leading, with the male as a guard directing the route. If they are disturbed, the parents act as though they have broken appendages, freeze, or flutter about nearby, while the young freeze to the ground. The young and their parents remain together until the coveys pair and break up the following winter.

The Present Status of the Hungarian Partridge in Nebraska

In the fall of 1940 Hungarian Partridges were identified and reported as being seen about five miles east of Springview, in Keyapaha County, along the northern border of the state. The identification was made by the author and Conservation Officer Weller of the Game, Forestation, and Parks Commission.

After this first identification of the birds extensive inquiry was made and reports of birds that were undoubtedly this specie were gathered from Boyd, Rock, Brown, and Holt counties.

Upon my being appointed Superintendent of Niobrara State Park I had the opportunity to contact a number of persons in this section of Nebraska and to collect additional data on this bird and was greatly pleased to find that a good many persons had seen a new bird which they were unable to identify and that seemed to be, according to the descriptions, Hungarian Partridge.

In the fall of 1941 I received permission from the Commission to make a survey of the area near the park and was able to gather reports of birds in different localities in western Knox County, and to see and identify one covey of 13 birds south of Verdel, Nebraska.

In the spring of 1942 I saw a pair six miles west of the Park.

On the 23rd of October, 1942, I saw and identified eight birds nine miles southeast of Niobrara, Nebraska.

Mr. Lee Jensen, Conservation Officer of the Game, Forestation and Parks Commission, states that he frequently sees Hungarian Partridge in the vicinity of O'Neill, Nebraska, and I have one report of the partridge from northern Antelope County.

From data available it appears that the Hungarian Partridge is present and, apparently, increasing in several north central Nebraska counties. From the reports at hand the known range of the bird in Nebraska appears to be from Cherry county on the west to central Knox county on the east and south, to northern Antelope and southern Holt counties on the south.

There is some doubt as to the history of these birds. It is possible that some of the original Nebraska plantings have survived and are now increasing to the point where they have been frequently observed. However, I am inclined to think that the source is birds that have migrated from South Dakota where this species is established and where there is a hunting season on them. Whatever the source, it is interesting to know that Nebraska has a new game bird apparently established and increasing.

If the conditions here are favorable for the species it is possible that before long the birds will spread over a large part of the state and replace the prairie chicken as a game bird. When conditions are favorable the increase of this bird is phenomenal. In Canada, the first Hungarians were 24 pairs released by sportsmen near Calgary, Alberta, in 1908 and 1909. Their rapid increase in this vicinity can be shown in that by 1912 an open season of thirty days with a daily bag limit of five birds was permitted. These limits were later extended until in 1927 the open season was three months with a bag limit of fifteen birds a day.

Information regarding description of the bird, its habits and early plantings was furnished by Mr. L. P. Vance, Supervisor, Pittman-Robertson Projects, for Nebraska.

Nebraska State Park, Nebraska, Nebraska

THE VANISHING BIRD LIFE OF NEBRASKA*

By A. M. BROOKING

In presenting a paper concerning the vanishing bird life of central Nebraska, I am well aware that some of my statements will not exactly coincide with those of others, for the reason that I am basing my observations upon a comparatively small area in the south Platte territory where conditions may vary greatly from that of the state taken as a whole. However, it may be of interest to at least some of you to get the reaction of a person like myself, who has been actively engaged in hunting and collecting birds for over fifty years. I might say that my interest in birds extends back to the year 1890 and I can distinctly remember many things connected with them previous to that time. During this half century I have noted the total disappearance of several species, and the gradual decline of others, and it is only through the fine work of this organization and others of its kind that the extinction of others have been prevented. After all, it is the edu-

* This paper was read at the Forty-third Annual Meeting of the N. O. U. held in Omaha on May 16, 1942.

cational program which we are stimulating and promoting that makes us at all hopeful for the future of these birds now remaining.

When I was a small boy, almost every youngster of my age in school had a collection of bird eggs and I take no pride in claiming that mine was the best in the community. Fortunately, boys of today, on account of better training, expend most of their efforts in other directions.

My knowledge of the Carolina Paroquet and the Passenger Pigeon, at one time fairly common within our borders, is mostly confined to what I have read, although the mounted Passenger Pigeon which we have in our museum collection was retrieved from an old case of birds found in a barn in Johnson County, Nebraska. It was taken in the vicinity of the town of Cook, in the eighties, and mounted by an amateur taxidermist, who, fortunately, knew enough of the rudiments of the art so that the bird could be remounted into a fine specimen.

Observations of the Eskimo Curlew are more extensive for I can still remember the occasional "Dough-Bird" that was brought in by hunters when we were living at Axtell in 1886 and '87. They were from the last straggling flocks of this once numerous bird. I have never taken a specimen of this bird but did make a sight record of one of the last flocks of Eskimo Curlew in North America.

On April 8th, 1926, I was driving from Hastings to Inland and when about five miles east of Hastings I noted a flock of eight birds whose flight was different from any I was familiar with, so I stopped the car and watched them until they alighted near the road some distance ahead. I then drove nearer and approached to within forty yards of where they were feeding. There was no doubt of their being the Eskimo Curlew for I was very familiar with the Hudsonian Curlew, the only other bird with which they might be confused.

As luck would have it, my gun was not in its accustomed place on the back seat of the car or I would certainly have taken a specimen or two in the interest of science. I have secured four mounted specimens of this bird from various sources. Two of those in the Hastings Museum bird collection, were taken by William Townsley, north of Harvard, April 10th, 1887. Mr. Townsley told me that at that date the birds were becoming so scarce he thought he had better add a pair to his collection before it was too late.

One evening about the middle of March, 1898, I was preparing to leave my goose blind in the middle of the Platte River south of Overton, when I noted three large white birds approaching my hiding place. As they drew nearer I saw that they were much too large for geese, so I waited until they came to within easy gun-shot and succeeded in killing all three. Two fell upon a small spit nearby and the third in the water. When I went to them I found I had three swans. As it was impossible for me to carry the three huge birds and my hunting equip-

ment I took the one from the water and left the other two on the bar, intending to bring them in later. When I returned the next morning I found that a mink had mutilated them so badly they were of no value for mounting so I picked the feathers from them. I found that the one I had saved weighed over twenty-five pounds, so I preserved it. For many years I naturally supposed that this bird was the commoner Whistling Swan, until Professor Swenk finally identified it as the rare Trumpeter Swan.

During my boyhood I frequently saw many flocks of swans flying over, but in the past forty years I have observed them but once. This was in the spring of 1915 when a flock of seven flew over the Inland Lagoon. A juvenile specimen of the Whistling Swan was sent to the Lincoln Tannery to be mounted in 1916 and as it was never claimed, I bought it. I know of no other records since that date.

During the past fifteen years in co-operation with Mr. C. A. Black of Kearney I have rather specialized in Whooping Crane records. Each spring I have sent articles to various newspapers and collectors up and down the Platte River asking them to report in detail any white crane that may have been seen. At some future date I hope to compile all of these records for publication for they show a decided downward trend and I seriously doubt if at this time there are over a hundred of these birds left alive in the world.

Each year fewer are seen and reported so it is only a matter of a few short years until they too are entirely gone. Authorities do not seem to agree upon the former abundance of the Whooping Crane. Personally I can say that in our section there was never enough of a migration to class them as common, although every spring one or two were usually killed during the hunting season. I have mounted about twenty-five during my life time and have a total of ten in my collection. The last three of these were taken at Merriman, Nebraska, by Phillip Mensinger late in March, 1929. Since this date I know of no others being killed.

It is hard for our present generation to realize what a hunter's paradise Nebraska was during the eighties and nineties. I do not think there were many more ducks than now, with the exception of the Pintail and the Ruddy. Although this belief may be due to the fact that we did not live near any large body of water. I do know, however, that the beautiful little Ruddy Ducks which seemed to be partial to the smaller ponds were very common and vast flocks of Pintails were everywhere during their spring migratory flight. In this day when it is considered a real hunting feat to kill one or two geese, it is hard to convince younger people of the tremendous slaughter that went on every spring. I can vividly remember those still spring mornings when from our home, twelve miles away from the Platte, we could hear the constant bombardment which sounded like a tremendous battle. I am sorry to say that I contributed my part in the carnage and it was my

ambition to kill a hundred geese each spring. Some years this was easy and upon one occasion I downed thirty birds in a single afternoon. One hunting party from Omaha that usually camped near us on the banks of the river made it a practice to ship a wagon load of game back to their friends in Omaha every two or three days.

They were equipped with the latest decoys, blinds and fire-arms and did much better than we poorer fellows. I still cherish the memory of the camps which we made on the Platte nearly every spring, for the night was filled with, what to me was the most melodious music in the world, as the thousands of wild fowl resting on the sandbars kept up their constant babble of sound. Snow Geese resembled great snow banks as they settled on the fields to feed. Among them was an occasional (at that time) rare Blue Goose. This is one goose which I believe has at least held its own, for my observations lead me to think there are as many if not more now than there were during my boyhood days.

Practically every species of shore bird with the exception of the very small ones have been greatly reduced in numbers in the past fifty years, for most of them present an enticing target to the hunter. The Curlew, Avocet, Willet and Bartramian Sandpiper are making their last stand in our sand hill regions, and other isolated localities, although I am of the opinion that they have done better in the last ten years than formerly. Thirty or forty years ago the Bartramian Sandpiper was a very common nester in our section of the country but the only breeding record we have had lately is from the vicinity of Fort Kearney where it nested last spring—1941.

The principal thing to which we can attribute the decline in our game birds is the excessive shooting in the past. Weather conditions and the advance of civilization has of course been a factor but animal life, to a great extent, adjusts itself to changing conditions if left alone. Nature never took into consideration the greed of man and after a certain species is reduced in numbers from this cause, adverse weather conditions during the nesting season may wreak havoc with the remainder.

I consider one of the most deplorable things in the history of bird life is the wanton killing of our hawks, especially the Swainson's Hawks. I well remember the scourge of grasshoppers in the year 1896 when it seemed that the destruction of crops would equal that of 1873 which is still spoken of by old-timers as the Grasshopper Year. I shall always believe that the Swainson's Hawk saved the day, for right with the 'hoppers came the hawks, literally thousands of them, and we were surprised the following spring to find only the usual number of insects.

In spite of this and hundreds of similar stories men and boys with guns still murder this friendly, harmless hawk under the impression that they kill chickens, so that now there is but a remnant left. With

the non-game birds the picture is much brighter. When I was a boy we never saw a Crow, Arkansas Kingbird, Black-headed Grosbeak or Say's Phoebe. Now they and many others have extended their range so that they are very common, in our section of the state. So perhaps nature will again adjust itself to changing conditions and replace those which we have lost with other species.

Hastings Museum, Hastings, Nebraska

**N. O. U. COOPERATIVE BIRD MIGRATION LIST
FOR SPRING OF 1942**

(Only the Date of First Arrival Given)

This is the eighteenth consecutive year that the cooperative migration list has been compiled by members of the N. O. U. and published. The observations for the Omaha vicinity were made by Dr. R. Allyn Moser and Mr. F. W. Haecker. The Fairbury records were made by the Misses Agness and Susie Callaway and Mrs. Chas. Richardson. Mr. Chas. S. Ludlow has sent in the observations for Red Cloud in which he includes records taken by Messrs. Ben Pegg, Chas. Tennant and Harold Ludlow. Under the leadership of Mrs. A. H. Jones a goodly number of Hastings bird students have combined their efforts to record the Adams County list. These observers are Mrs. A. M. Jones, Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Brooking, Prof. John Moulton, Mr. Wm. Jaques, Miss Annette Franz, Mrs. A. E. Olson, Mrs. F. L. Youngblood, Mrs. Paul Sala, Mrs. Chas. Mousel, Miss Nelle Rowe, Mrs. A. H. Staley, Miss Jennie Woodworth and members of the Brooking Bird Club.

	Omaha	Fairbury	Red Cloud	Hastings
Eared Grebe		5-15		
Pied-billed Grebe	4-7	4-30		4-17
White Pelican	5-7			
Great Blue Heron (subsp.)	3-22	3-10	5-20	
Eastern Green Heron		5-4		4-27
Black-crowned Night Heron				5-3
American Bittern		4-22		4-22
Least Bittern			5-30	
Common Canada Goose (subsp.)	3-21	3-10	2-23	3-7
Lesser Snow Goose	3-8	3-2	3-7	4-5
Blue Goose	3-8	3-2		
Common Mallard	2-6	3-20	3-7	3-22
Gadwall	3-15			
Baldpate	3-12			
American Pintail	2-22	4-8	3-24	
Green-winged Teal		4-10		
Blue-winged Teal	3-15	5-15		
Shoveller	4-5	4-12		3-22

	Omaha	Fairbury	Red Cloud	Hastings
Redhead	3-7			3-31
Ring-necked Duck	3-15			
Canvas-back	3-31	5-14		
Lesser Scaup Duck	3-8	4-12		4-3
American Golden-eye	3-15			
Ruddy Duck	4-26			
American Merganser	1-11			
Turkey Vulture	5-31			
Sharp-shinned Hawk	3-30	1-10		
Cooper's Hawk	1-1	1-7		
Eastern Red-tailed Hawk (subsp.)	1-25		1-6	3-30
Northern Red-shouldered Hawk	5-31			
Broad-winged Hawk	4-23			4-20
Swainson's Hawk				4-5
American Rough-legged Hawk				5-9
Bald Eagle (subsp.)	3-8			
Marsh Hawk	1-25	1-14	2-4	
Osprey	4-9			2-14
Prairie Falcon			3-21	
Sparrow Hawk (subsp.)	1-3	3-10	1-29	1-23
Eastern Bob-white	6-14	1-18	4-12	
Ring-necked Pheasant	4-1	1-23	1-6	
Sandhill Crane (subsp.)				3-22
Sora		4-11		
American Coot	3-15	4-11		
Piping Plover	5-12			
Semipalmated Plover	4-19			
Killdeer	3-19	3-12	3-18	3-15
American Golden Plover	4-19			
Wilson's Snipe	4-20	3-10		
Upland Plover		4-20		5-9
Spotted Sandpiper	5-17	4-1		5-9
Eastern Solitary Sandpiper		4-10		5-9
Western Willet		5-15		
Greater Yellow-legs	4-17	5-15		4-12
Lesser Yellow-legs	4-18	4-15		3-22
Pectoral Sandpiper	4-19	5-15		
Baird's Sandpiper	4-26	4-11		4-12
Least Sandpiper	4-26	4-1		
Dowitcher (subsp.)		5-15		
Semipalmated Sandpiper	4-26			
Hudsonian Godwit	4-26			
Sanderling		5-15		
Wilson's Phalarope	4-26	5-15		
Herring Gull	2-26			
Ring-billed Gull	3-12			
Franklin's Gull	4-26	3-20	4-20	4-18

N. O. U. COOPERATIVE BIRD MIGRATION LIST 49

	Omaha	Fairbury	Red Cloud	Hastings
Forster's Tern	5-7			
Least Tern	6-5			
Black Tern	6-5	5-15	4-20	5-9
Rock Dove	1-1			
Western Mourning Dove	2-11	4-1	3-15	3-21
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	5-11	5-7	5-25	5-9
Black-billed Cuckoo	5-17	5-12		
Screech Owl (subsp.)	3-18	1-1	1-4	
Horned Owl (subsp.)	1-25	1-5		
Western Burrowing Owl		3-8		4-12
Nighthawk (subsp.)	5-14	5-15	5-11	5-9
Chimney Swift	4-24	5-3		4-26
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	5-17			
Eastern Belted Kingfisher	4-5	3-7	4-10	3-21
Northern Flicker	1-1	3-15	1-6	3-10
Red-shafted Flicker			2-21	3-10
Red-bellied Woodpecker	1-12	3-10		5-9
Red-headed Woodpecker	3-1	4-7	5-16	4-30
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	4-8			
Hairy Woodpecker (subsp.)	1-3	1-3	1-18	
Downy Woodpecker (subsp.)	1-4	1-1	1-18	
Eastern Kingbird	4-23	5-1	4-28	4-29
Arkansas Kingbird	5-28	5-7	5-1	4-28
Northern Crested Flycatcher	5-10	5-10		4-29
Eastern Phoebe	3-26	3-22	3-24	3-22
Say's Phoebe				4-10
Alder Flycatcher (subsp.)	5-31	5-7		5-6
Least Flycatcher	5-17		5-15	5-5
Eastern Wood Pewee	5-31	5-15	5-1	
Olive-sided Flycatcher				5-6
Horned Lark (subsp.)	1-2	1-2	1-3	4-6
Tree Swallow	4-19			
Bank Swallow	4-18		4-27	
Rough-winged Swallow	4-23	5-15	5-3	5-9
Barn Swallow	4-19	4-15	4-27	5-23
Northern Cliff Swallow	4-25			5-9
Purple Martin	4-9	5-1		3-22
Northern Blue Jay	1-4	5-15	4-24	4-6
American Magpie			1-25	
White-necked Raven				5-9
Eastern Crow	1-4	1-2	1-10	
Long-tailed Chickadee (subsp.)	1-4	1-1	1-6	
Tufted Titmouse		4-12		
White-breasted Nuthatch (subsp.)	1-11	4-3		
Red-breasted Nuthatch	1-25			
Brown Creeper	1-12	1-1		*5-9

* Last seen

	Omaha	Fairbury	Red Cloud	Hastings
Western House Wren	4-19		4-18	
Bewick's Wren				4-7
Mockingbird (subsp.)	6-25	4-30	5-10	4-5
Catbird	5-17	5-4	5-22	5-2
Brown Thrasher	4-23	5-1	4-21	4-19
Robin (subsp.)	3-3	1-10	1-3	3-10
Wood Thrush	5-7		5-17	5-6
Hermit Thrush (subsp.)	5-17			
Olive-backed Thrush	5-7	5-7	5-17	4-19
Gray-cheeked Thrush	5-7			5-6
Eastern Bluebird	2-3	3-16	5-11	3-22
Townsend's Solitaire				5-26
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher		5-15		5-5
Eastern Golden-crowned Kinglet	4-9	4-1		3-26
Eastern Ruby-crowned Kinglet	4-19	4-1		4-6
Bohemian Waxwing	3-3			
Cedar Waxwing	3-3	3-3		2-20
Migrant Shrike (subsp.)	3-26	4-1	4-24	3-30
Starling	1-2	1-1	1-5	
White-eyed Vireo	5-17			
Bell's Vireo	5-17	4-20		5-9
Yellow-throated Vireo		5-15		
Red-eyed Vireo	5-31	4-30		5-9
Warbling Vireo (subsp.)	4-24	4-28	5-6	4-29
Black and White Warbler	5-7			4-29
Tennessee Warbler	5-17	5-15		5-9
Orange-crowned Warbler		4-16		7-18
Nashville Warbler				5-6
Yellow Warbler (subsp.)	4-26	5-6	5-3	5-2
Magnolia Warbler				5-26
Myrtle Warbler	4-19	4-1	5-7	4-18
Audubon's Warbler				5-1
Black-throated Green Warbler				5-5
Black-poll Warbler	5-17	4-8		5-5
Western Palm Warbler				4-23
Ovenbird	5-31			5-7
Grinnell's Water-Thrush (subsp.)		5-15		5-6
Louisiana Water-Thrush				5-6
Northern Yellow-throat (subsp.)	5-17	5-1		4-28
Chat (subsp.)	5-24			5-5
American Redstart	5-7		4-5	5-5
English Sparrow	1-1	1-1		
Bobolink				5-9
Eastern Meadowlark	4-1	5-15		
Western Meadowlark	1-6	1-2	1-1	
Yellow-headed Blackbird	4-18	4-7	3-11	4-12
Red-wing (subsp.)	3-8	3-1	3-8	3-11

N. O. U. COOPERATIVE BIRD MIGRATION LIST 51

	Omaha	Fairbury	Red Cloud	Hastings
Orchard Oriole	4-29	4-30	4-30	4-30
Baltimore Oriole	4-29	4-28	4-28	4-29
Rusty Blackbird	4-5			
Brewer's Blackbird	4-9		3-19	
Bronzed Grackle	3-22	4-15	1-25	
Cowbird (subsp.)	4-5	4-7	4-27	5-24
Western Tanager		5-24		
Scarlet Tanager		5-15		
Eastern Cardinal	1-3	1-9	1-21	
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	4-28	5-3	4-28	5-25
Rocky Mountain Grosbeak				5-3
Western Blue Grosbeak		4-20	5-10	
Indigo Bunting	5-17	5-15	5-24	5-9
Lazuli Bunting				5-5
Dickcissel	5-17	5-15	5-14	5-9
Eastern Purple Finch	3-8			
Common House Finch			1-31	
Northern Pine Siskin	2-15	1-30	4-3	2-4
Goldfinch (subsp.)	1-11	1-16	1-13	
Red-eyed Towhee	4-9	2-10	4-26	5-5
Arctic Towhee (subsp.)		3-7		4-18
Lark Bunting			5-24	5-9
Savannah Sparrow (subsp.)	4-16		4-27	5-24
Western Grasshopper Sparrow		5-15	4-21	5-9
Vesper Sparrow (subsp.)	4-9	8-12	4-21	4-6
Lark Sparrow (subsp.)	4-16	4-20	4-28	4-20
Slate-colored Junco	1-1	1-1	1-10	1-11
Shufeldt's Junco	3-1		1-10	3-11
Tree Sparrow (subsp.)	2-22	1-3	1-5	
Chipping Sparrow (subsp.)	4-9	5-15	3-3	5-23
Clay-colored Sparrow	4-26	4-20		5-23
Western Field Sparrow	4-19	5-1		5-26
Harris's Sparrow	3-13	1-1	1-2	3-10
White-crowned Sparrow (subsp.)		4-9	4-14	5-23
White-throated Sparrow	4-23			4-23
Lincoln's Sparrow	4-17	3-16		4-28
Swamp Sparrow	4-20			
Song Sparrow (subsp.)	1-11		3-19	4-4
Lapland Longspur (subsp.)	2-22		1-6	

GENERAL NOTES

A Record of the Roseate Spoonbill For Nebraska.—

An unusual bird record was recently discovered when the Hastings Museum secured the large bird collection of Mr. C. A. Black of Kearney. It is that of the Roseate Spoonbill (*Ajaia ajaja*) that was taken near the Odessa bridge, Buffalo County, by Mr. Thomas Goss of Kearney on June 5, 1932. I have known of the taking of this bird since that time but supposed it had been recorded by Mr. Black so was naturally surprised to learn that it had not been added to the Nebraska list. The bird, a female, was superbly mounted by Mr. Black and is evidently in the first year's plumage, only showing a trace of the red so prominent in the adults.—A. M. BROOKING, Hastings, Nebraska.

Unusual Coloration in the Canada Goose.—On October 30, 1942, on a bar of the Missouri River in Knox County, Nebraska, located just above the mouth of the Niobrara River, I observed a flock of 40 to 50 Common Canada Geese (*Branta canadensis canadensis*), many and perhaps all of which showed a distinct yellowish or ochre or cinnamon tint covering the entire chest and belly. This unusual coloration was very conspicuous upon one of these geese which was shot. Other markings were in every way similar to those which we would expect an ordinary Canada Goose to show. The same day at a point two or three miles below the mouth of the Niobrara River, there were two more flocks of geese of approximately 30 individuals each, on a bar. These two flocks were close together, perhaps only thirty yards apart. One flock was made up entirely of the cinnamon breasted variety while the other flock showed the usual light grayish or white which one would ordinarily expect Canada Geese to show. Although these flocks were sitting close together there was no intermingling whatever.—EDWIN DAVIS, Omaha, Nebr.*

Notes From Superior.—September has been an unusual month so far as birds are concerned. On the sixth, a few miles south of town, we saw a flock of medium sized birds. When we got the light on them and were near enough, they proved to be bluebirds. My husband and I estimated there were between 50 and 100 in the flock. On the same day and near the same place I saw a Great Blue Heron, and on September 13th I saw another. These birds are not common in this territory although they are occasionally seen.—MRS. EARLE LIONBERGER, Superior, Nebraska.

Flocking Bluebirds at Omaha.—On Sunday November 8, 1942, I saw a flock of bluebirds in my back yard, perhaps 12 to 20 flying in and about a fine old oak tree, such as is found here at Bemis Park. It was a bright sunny mild day, and the only day I saw bluebirds. Early the next morning it was damp and foggy, but I heard a faint "dearie", probably a good bye from one of the flock on its way south.—MISS BEULAH ADAMS, Omaha, Nebraska.

* The only explanation we can suggest is that this coloration is due to a water stain.—Ed.

Notes From North Platte.—The North Platte Bird Club held its September meeting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Hollman with 18 of the 25 members present. The club was organized in April 1934 and with a few exceptions it has held meetings or a picnic every month since that time. Mrs. Archie Middleton was elected president for the coming year, Mrs. Carl Hollman was elected vice-president and Wilson

Tout was re-elected secretary-treasurer. The treasurer reported a balance of \$42.43 in the club treasury with all bills paid. He was directed to collect dues for the coming year at 50 cents per member and to buy two \$25 war bonds in the name of the club.

The Sage Thrasher is the only new bird I have added to the Lincoln County list so far this year. I saw it on the morning of the Fourth of July. I was walking on a country road south of North Platte and it was in the road busy tearing a small toad into pieces. It did this mainly by pounding its prey against the hard earth. It succeeded in swallowing the entire animal in time and while doing so did not pay any attention to my approach. I stood within a dozen feet of it for some time and studied its plumage and actions. It flew into some brush by the side of the road and I lost sight of it but I suspect it had a nest nearby.

The banding permit from the Federal Division of Fish and Wildlife Service formerly held by Mrs. Tout has been transferred to my name. Banding birds is not a new experience to me for I helped her many time in her banding of more than a thousand birds. All of the traps I am now using are automatic and located in the home yard. We wanted to retain the banding station here as it is the only one in North Platte. Harry Weakly has a banding station at the Experimental Substation just south of here and Earl Glandon has one at Stapleton 25 miles north of here. These are the only banding stations in this part of the state that I know of.

The Eastern Cardinal is not common here but we see it in the timber along the river almost every month in the year. Reports from Omaha, Lincoln, York and other places have told of cardinals being seen in the residential parts of those cities and I have been looking for a cardinal at my home here for 35 years. It did come in October and flitted about the yard for a little while, and it was the same day that the St. Louis Cardinals won the World Series. It was an interesting coincidence to me.—WILSON TOUT, North Platte, Nebraska.

Further Occurrences of the American Egret Along the Missouri River.—"The most upstream record of the American Egret (*Casmerodius albus egretta*) for the Missouri River that has come to my attention was reported by Mr. E. W. Short of Blair. Mr. Short had the remarkable experience last summer of making a trip in an outboard motorboat from the Ft. Peck dam in Montana, to Omaha. He made the trip alone and had a larger launch hull in tow. He reports seeing the

egret on July 11 about 20 miles above Sioux City which would put it in Dixon County, Nebraska. On trips together in former years Mr. Short and I have observed the American Egret so I am confident that his determination was correct. He also reported seeing 22 Sandhill Cranes on September 30 along the Missouri River in Burt County, Nebraska.

On the morning of August 21st, 1942, I was coming into St. Louis, Missouri, on the Wabash Railroad. We had just crossed the Missouri River at St. Charles and were in the bottoms near the river in St. Louis County, Missouri. Looking ahead from the train window I noted what I took to be a large flock of white turkeys near the railway. As the train approached nearer I was greatly surprised to see that I was looking at a flock of between 500 and 700 American Egrets standing around a slough. A few Little Blue Herons were noted in the flock and I suspect that Snowy Egrets could have been found there too if I had had the opportunity to look further. The birds did not seem to be a bit concerned because of the train passing within a few hundred feet of them. This is the largest concentration of this species during their summer wanderings away from their nesting grounds that I have ever noted.—F. W. HAECKER, *Omaha, Nebraska*.

The C. A. Black Collection.—'The Hastings Museum considers itself very fortunate in the recent acquisition of the C. A. Black collection. Mr. Black of Kearney is one of the few veteran bird collectors of the state and for many years his exhibit of birds has been considered among the best in Nebraska. However, as other interests have occupied his attention in later years he has grown less active as a collector although his interest in ornithology has remained as keen as ever. For some time he has desired to place his birds where they would be permanently cared for. His close association and friendship with the Director of the Hastings Museum was the deciding factor in placing them in that institution.

The collection numbers many hundreds of mounted birds, skins and eggs and besides three Whooping Cranes contains many choice Nebraska records. Probably the rarest of these is the Roseate Spoonbill taken at Odessa June 5, 1932, by Thomas Goss. A Water-Turkey taken at Wood River by Oscar Blevins September 20, 1913, a Louisiana Heron taken ten miles west of the Kearney bridge October 14, 1918, and a Northern Raven taken at Kearney November 12, 1900, are present in the collection, also there are represented both Pomarine and Parasitic Jaegers, and a Lesser Prairie Chicken taken in the state. His collection also contains an Ivory-billed Woodpecker although it was not collected in Nebraska.

Other rare birds taken in the vicinity of Kearney are eight Buff-breasted Sandpipers, the Snow Bunting, the Cinnamon Teal, several Snowy Egrets, the Northern Curlew, both Common and Least Terns, White-winged and Bendire's Crossbills, Baird's and Leconte's Sparrows, Lewis's Woodpecker and Canada and Bay-breasted Warblers.

There are a number of unusual hybrids consisting of one between the Blue and Snow Goose, and the Blue-winged and Cinnamon Teals, and also a number of albinos such as Bob-white, meadowlark, robin and Barn Owl. Mr. Black enjoyed preparing young downy nestlings and there are many of these in the collection.—A. M. BROOKING, *Hastings, Nebraska*.

Notes from Hastings.—The Ruby-throated Hummingbird was seen on September 3rd, and the Wilson's Warbler on the fifth. Other September notes of interest included Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers and Red-breasted Nuthatches on September 29th. We saw Bewick's Wrens on October 3rd. The Red-breasted Nuthatches are spending the winter in the north part of Hastings and are frequently seen at various feeding stations about the city. On November 10th a small flock of Golden-crowned Kinglets were in my yard, and they were also seen by others in different parts of Hastings. I observed them in our spruce trees at the time of our first snow fall this season.—MRS. A. H. JONES, *Hastings, Nebr.*

Notes from Fairbury.—During the early part of December hundreds of starlings came into our cedar trees stripping them of the berries. We tried to frighten them away, and they would leave for a few minutes but would come back again seemingly in greater numbers and took nearly all of the berries on these trees, leaving very few for the Cedar and Bohemian Waxwings which have come back each winter for years. We also have a lone grackle and a blue-jay frequenting our yard. Also mourning doves, meadowlarks, flickers, kingfishers and a Wilson's Snipe, which we hope will linger about so that we may get them on our January bird list. We have our usual winter residents, such as tree sparrows, Harris's Sparrows, juncos, downy and hairy woodpeckers, cardinals and chickadees. We hear and see the Great Horned Owl quite often, and the Prairie Horned Larks have been frequently seen this season.—MISS SUSIE CALLAWAY, *Fairbury, Nebr.*

The Eastern Purple Finch Wintering in Omaha.—On Christmas Day a bird listing trip was made by Dr. R. Allyn Moser and myself. During the course of the afternoon 21 species were noted. As usual, Song Sparrows (subsp.) were found wintering along the Missouri River bottoms. In Forest Lawn Cemetery Eastern Golden-crowned Kinglets, Eastern Goldfinches and Northern Pine Siskins were found in numbers. Several Shufeldt's Juncos were also observed. The most interesting record of the trip, however, was the observance of a small flock of Eastern Purple Finches in Forest Lawn Cemetery, indicating that these birds may be winter residents in this territory this year.—F. W. HAECKER, *Omaha, Nebr.*

MEMBERSHIP ROLL OF THE NEBRASKA ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION

HONORARY MEMBERS

Hole, Mrs. H. F., 1610 Ivy St., Crete, Nebraska	1919
Loveland, Mrs. G. A., River Road, Norwich, Vermont	1901
Niedrach, Mr. Robert J., Colorado Museum of Natural History, Denver, Colorado	1932
Oberholser, Dr. H. C., The Cleveland Museum of Natural History, Cleveland, Ohio	1924
Stephens, Dr. T. C., Morningside College, Sioux City, Iowa	1911
Sutton, Dr. Geo. Miksch, Fernow Hall, Cornell Univ., Ithaca, New York.....	1941
Zimmer, Mr. John T., American Museum of Natural History Central Park, New York, N. Y.	1907

SUSTAINING MEMBERS

Brooking Bird Club, A. M. Brooking, Librarian, Hastings Museum, Hastings, Nebraska	1933
Haecker, Mr. F. W., 506 S. 52nd St., Omaha, Nebraska	1918
Horsky, Mr. L. O., 5952 Franklin St., Omaha, Nebraska	1910
Inez Houghton Audubon Society, Chadron, Nebraska	1917
Jones, Mrs. A. H., 1114 N. Denver Ave., Hastings, Nebraska	1924
Moser, Dr. R. Allyn, 813 N. 50th St., Omaha, Nebr.	1935
Swenk, Mrs. Myron H., 1410 N. 37th St., Lincoln, Nebraska.....	1918
Wilcox, W. LeRoy, 622 No. 38th St., Omaha, Nebraska	1940

ACTIVE MEMBERS

Adams, Mrs. Addison, 1812 W. Fourth Street, Hastings, Nebraska	1927
Adams, Mr. Frederick J., 5103 Webster, Omaha, Nebraska	1925
Bantin, Mrs. C. F., 6858 Minne Lusa, Omaha, Nebraska	1942
Blinco, Mr. George, 411 Morehead St., Chadron, Nebraska	1933
Blinco, Mrs. George, 411 Morehead St., Chadron, Nebraska	1919
Brooking, Mr. A. M., 1331 No. Burlington Ave., Hastings, Nebr.....	1918
Brooking, Mrs. A. M., 1331 No. Burlington Ave., Hastings, Nebraska	1927
Brown, Mr. Eddie, 1608 Ave. L, Box 460, Kearney, Nebraska.....	1942
Button, Mrs. Lily Ruegg, 515 W. Eighth St., Fremont, Nebraska....	1915
Calvert, Miss Bertha, 5717 No. 30th St., Omaha, Nebraska	1934
Chapman, Mrs. Glen, Aurora, Nebraska	1927
Clark, Mrs. Floyd, 5120 Chicago St., Omaha, Nebraska	1942
Ellsworth, Miss Emma, 6337 No. 37th St., Omaha Nebraska	1925
Ellsworth, Miss Mary, 6337 No. 37th St., Omaha, Nebraska	1917
Emrich, Mr. John, 69th & Grover Sts., Omaha, Nebraska	1938
Fichter, Dr. Edson H., 22 Bessey Hall, Univ. of Nebr., Lincoln, Nebraska	1937
Gates, Miss Doris B., 5234 Adams Street, Lincoln, Nebraska	1937
Gates, Mr. Leroy M., 5234 Adams Street, Lincoln, Nebraska	1913
Gifford, Dr. Harold, 1620 Medical Arts Building,	

MEMBERSHIP ROLL OF THE N. O. U.

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Omaha, Nebraska	1930
Glandon, Mr. Earl W., Stapleton, Nebraska	1933
Glandon, Mrs. Earl W., Stapleton, Nebraska	1933
Larson, Mr. Martin E., 3320 Burt St., Omaha, Nebraska	1925
Licking, Mr. Clyde L., 407 So. Pine St., North Platte, Nebraska.....	1937
McKillip, Mrs. L. H., 149 No. First Street, Seward, Nebraska	1919
Orendurff, Mr. C. F., 1315 West 5th St., Grand Island, Nebraska ..	1939
Overing, Mr. Robert, Weaverville, N. C.	1928
Parsons, Mr. Grant, 1815 No. 53rd St., Omaha, Nebraska	1938
Perkins, Mrs. S. A., 1305 South 52nd St., Omaha, Nebraska	1940
Philpot, Miss Mayme, 3621 So. 24th St., Omaha, Nebraska	1934
Rooney, Miss Elizabeth, 2802 Dodge St., Omaha, Nebraska	1915
Slate, Mr. J. B., 3607 No. 49 St., Omaha, Nebraska	1940
Smith, Mr. George O., 1837 C St., Lincoln, Nebraska	1932
Smith, Mrs. George O., 1837 C St., Lincoln, Nebraska	1923
Timmler, Mr. Rudolph, 3136 No. 57th St., Omaha, Nebraska	1933
Tout, Rebecca, Tribune Printing Co., North Platte, Nebraska	1942
*Tout, Mr. Wilson, Tribune Printing Co., North Platte, Nebraska.....	1900
Trine, Mrs. George W., Red Cloud, Nebraska	1923
Viehmeyer, Mr. Glenn, Niobrara State Park, Niobrara, Nebraska ..	1935
Von Bergen, Miss Alice, 683 George Blvd., Omaha, Nebraska	1942
Watson, Mr. Lucius H., 4103 Sheridan Blvd., Lincoln, Nebr.	1917
Weakly, Mr. Harry E., Experiment Substation, North Platte, Nebraska.....	1934
Winslade, Mrs. Jane M., Omaha World-Herald, Omaha, Nebraska.....	1941

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Adams, Mr. Addison, 1812 W. Fourth St., Hastings, Nebraska.....	1927
Adams, Miss Beulah, 3429 Hawthorne Ave., Omaha, Nebraska.....	1937
Allen, Mr. Harry B., Route 4, Cozad, Nebraska	1937
Allen, Mrs. Harry B., Route 4, Cozad, Nebraska	1933
Anderson, Mrs. Dana, St. Edward, Nebraska	1934
Anderson, Mr. Dana, St. Edward, Nebraska	1933
*Barbour, Dr. E. H., 1727 B St., Lincoln, Nebraska	1900
Binderup, Mr. V. W., Minden, Nebraska	1929
Callaway, Miss Agness, R.F.D. No. 3, Fairbury, Nebraska	1925
Callaway, Miss Susie, R. F. D. No. 3, Fairbury, Nebraska	1925
Collister, Mrs. Carl, 1418 East Second Street, North Platte, Nebr.....	1934
Cross, Miss Fannie B., Fairbury, Nebraska	1941
Davis, Mrs. H. H., 112 S. Elmwood Road, Omaha, Nebraska	1941
Day, Mr. Fred I. 210 E. Sixth St., Superior, Nebraska	1933
Day, Mrs. George L., 631 Kansas Ave., Superior, Nebraska.	1923
Day, Miss Marian, 631 Kansas Ave., Superior, Nebraska	1932
Denise, Dr. Larimore C., 2020 Spencer St., Omaha, Nebraska	1928
Fabrique, Mrs. H. L., Nelson, Nebraska	1933
Fleming, Mrs. Ruth M., 3100 Leighton Ave., Lincoln, Nebraska	1935
Gates, Mrs. Leroy M., 5234 Adams St., Lincoln, Nebraska	1933

* Charter Member

Gedgoud, Mrs. John L., 5421 Decatur St., Omaha, Nebraska	1942
Greenleaf, Mr. Miles, 4680 Douglas St., Omaha, Nebraska	1942
Griffin, Mrs. Thomas D., 925 So. 32nd St., Lincoln, Nebraska	1924
Heinemann, Mrs. Paul T., Plattsmouth, Nebraska	1933
Heller, Miss Carmen, 210 North Willow St., North Platte, Nebr.....	1937
Hilton, Dr. David C., 305 Richards Block, Lincoln, Nebraska	1909
Hollman, Mr. J. C., 1106 W. Fifth St., North Platte, Nebraska	1934
Horsky, Mrs. L. O., 5952 Franklin St., Omaha, Nebraska.....	1933
Hudson, Dr. George E., 303 Side St., Pullman, Washington	1933
Jacobus, Mr. W. H. B., 9730 Florence Heights Blvd., Omaha, Nebraska	1938
Johnston, Mrs. H. C., 856 Idaho St., Superior, Nebraska	1919
Jones, Mrs. A. M., 1015 No. St. Joe Ave., Hastings, Nebraska	1927
Keller, Mr. F. J., Antioch, Nebraska	1929
Keller, Mrs. F. J., Antioch, Nebraska	1940
Kellogg, Miss Jessie M., Red Cloud, Nebraska.....	1919
Koehler, Gussie, 2454 Harney Street, Omaha, Nebraska	1942
Krohn, Miss Bertha, 1837 C St., Lincoln, Nebraska	1933
Laffoon, Mr. Jean, 1401 W. 3rd St., Sioux City, Iowa	1941
Lake, Miss Flora, 4911 Davenport St., Omaha, Nebraska	1940
Lawton, Miss Amy C., 3316 Burt St., Omaha, Nebraska	1936
Lionberger, Mrs. Earle L., 537 Kansas Avenue, Superior, Nebr.	1925
Loomis, Mrs. G. W., 1014 So. 30th Avenue, Omaha, Nebraska	1940
Ludden, Miss Carrie, State Teacher's College, Kearney, Nebr.	1941
Ludlow, Mr. Charles S., R. R. No. 2, Red Cloud, Nebraska	1912
McCreary, Mr. Otto, Agricultural Hall, Univ. of Wyoming, Laramie, Wyoming	1930
Marsh, Mr. Wm., 4157 Davenport, Omaha, Nebraska	1933
Maunder, Mrs. E. R., 818 Ash Avenue, Hastings, Nebraska	1934
Maunder, Miss Vera, 818 Ash Ave., Hastings, Nebraska	1933
Moon, Miss Ruth, 4548 Lowell St., Lincoln, Nebraska	1936
Moore, Mr. Mark, Kearney, Nebraska	1941
Murray, Mr. Robert G., 3935 No. 72nd St., Omaha, Nebraska	1942
Murphy, Rev. C. G., 2672 Sewell St., Lincoln, Nebraska	1937
Olson, Mrs. A. E., 915 E. Ninth St., Hastings, Nebraska	1937
Richardson, Mrs. Charles, Route 3, Fairbury, Nebraska	1924
Smith, E. Pearl, Box 84, North Platte, Nebraska	1942
Stipsky, Mr. Joseph E., Hooper, Nebraska	1928
Stohrer, Mr. Walter A., 2456 Fontanelle Blvd., Omaha, Nebraska.....	1942
Stoltenberg, Mr. O. L. Florence Station, Omaha, Nebraska	1939
Sylla, Miss N. Caryle, 808 No. Denver Ave., Hastings, Nebr.....	1928
Towl, Mr. Roy N., 506 So. 57th St., Omaha, Nebraska	1937
Towne, Miss Mary A., 1502 No. 54th St., Omaha, Nebraska	1932
Turner, Mr. Harold, Route 2, Bladen, Nebraska	1933
Vance, Mrs. Verne W., 5116 Hamilton, Omaha, Nebraska	1940
Velich, Mr. Ralph, 5212 So. 23rd, Omaha, Nebraska	1937
Viehmeyer, Mrs. George, Stapleton, Nebraska	1939
Viehmeyer, Mrs. Glenn, Niobrara, Nebraska	1935

Wake, Miss Mary Ann, Eustis, Nebraska	1937
Wendland, Dr. J. Prentice, University Hospital, Omaha, Nebr.....	1942
Wilson, Miss Louisa M., 3103 So. 35th St., Lincoln, Nebraska.....	1924
Wilson, Miss Sue, 1010 First National Bank Bldg., Omaha, Nebr....	1933



For the third straight year Dr. R. Allyn Moser has represented the Nebraska Ornithologists' Union at the annual meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union. This year the American Ornithologists' Union meeting was held at the Academy of Natural Sciences at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, from October 12th to 16th. Dr. Moser reported a very small attendance and found that he was about the only midwestern representative present. Some very interesting papers were presented, however, and he considered the trip well worth while. Due to a previous appointment in St. Louis he was unable to attend the field trip but later learned that because of bad weather this trip was not entirely satisfactory.



On October 31st of this year Omaha bird students were treated to a very interesting program given by Mr. "Bert" Harwell of the National Audubon Society. The program was given in the main auditorium of Joslyn Memorial under the auspices of the Omaha Nature Study Club, the Fontenelle Forest Association and the Nebraska Ornithologists' Union. Mr. Harwell, a California ornithologist of note, entertained a large audience with colored and black and white pictures, both motion and still, projected on the auditorium screen. Mr. Harwell is an expert bird imitator and entertained his audience with his remarkably true to life bird call imitations. A special feature which he was able to perform with remarkable skill was a series of bird songs which he whistled, accompanying himself on the piano.

NEBRASKA BIRD CLUBS

Chadron—Inez Houghton Audubon Society

Organized 1917

President—Mrs. H. H. Camburn

Vice-President—Mrs. L. G. Lindahl

Sec'y-Treas.—Mrs. E. C. Byerly

Fairbury—Fairbury Nature Union

Organized May, 1940. Formerly Nature Study

Dept. of the Fairbury Women's Club,
organized in 1916

President—Mrs. Charles Richardson

Vice-President—Miss Agness Callaway

Secretary—Miss Susie Callaway

Treasurer—Miss Bertha Holly

Publicity—Miss Margaret Chambers

Hastings—Brooking Bird Club

Organized September 10, 1923

President—Wm. Jaques

Secretary—Mrs. A. M. Brooking

Lincoln—Lincoln Bird Club

Organized April 2, 1940

President—Mrs. Leroy Gulatta

Sec'y-Treas.—Mrs. Claire Miles

North Platte—North Platte Bird Club

Organized April, 1934

President—Mrs. Archie Middleton

Vice-President—Mrs. Carl Hollman

Sec'y-Treas.—Wilson Tout

Omaha—Omaha Nature Study Club

Organized May, 1927

President—F. W. Haecker

Vice-President—L. O. Horsky

Superior—Garden Dept. of Superior Woman's Club

Formerly Superior Bird Club, organized 1922
